

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CANBER 01843 090807Z

13

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-09 IO-11 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-10 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05

L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 AID-05 CIEP-02 SS-15

STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

/127 W

----- 052567

R 090553Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7679

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USDEL MTN GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

UNCLAS CANBERRA 1843

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: GATT, ETRD, AS

SUBJ: AUSTRALIAN TARIFF QUOTA ON PRECISION GROUND STEEL

BALL BEARINGS LIFTED

REF: 75 CANBERRA 1917

1. THE FOLLOWING IS VERBATIM TEXT OF JOINT STATEMENT
DATED MARCH 5, 1976 BY MINISTER FOR BUSINESS AND CONSUMER
AFFAIRS HOWARD AND MINISTER FOR INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE
COTTON ON THIS SUBJECT:

(A) QTE THE MINISTER FOR BUSINESS AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
MR. JOHN HOWARD, AND THE MINISTER FOR INDUSTRY AND
COMMERCE, SENATOR ROBERT COTTON, ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE
GOVERNMENT HAD ACCEPTED THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE INDUSTRIES
ASSISTANCE COMMISSION IN ITS REPORT ON PRECISION GROUND
STEEL BALL BEARINGS - TARIFF QUOTA. THE REPORT WILL BE
AVAILABLE SHORTLY FROM THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 CANBER 01843 090807Z

SERVICE.

(B) QTE THE MINISTER SAID THAT THE COMMISSION HAD RECOMMENDED THAT IMPORTS OF PRECISION GROUND STEEL BALL BEARINGS NOT BE SUBJECT TO A TARIFF QUOTA AFTER 29 FEBRUARY, 1976.

(C) QTE A TARIFF QUOTA WAS APPLIED IN MARCH 1975 ON THE ADVICE OF THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE AUTHORITY. IMPORTS AT NORMAL DUTY RATES WERE LIMITED TO 2 MILLION UNITS FOR A PERIOD OF TWELVE MONTHS WHILE; IMPORTS ABOVE THAT LEVEL ATTRACTED AN ADDITIONAL TEMPORARY DUTY OF 20 PER CENT.

(D) QTE THE COMMISSION HAS NOW REPORTED THAT IMPORTS OF BEARINGS ARE LIKELY TO REMAIN THAT THEIR PRESENT LOW LEVELS IN THE ABSENCE OF A TARIFF QUOTA, GIVEN THE DEPRESSED STATE OF THE MARKET AND THE EXISTENCE OF HIGH STOCK LEVELS. THE COMMISSION CONCLUDED THAT CONTINUANCE OF THE TARIFF QUOTA IS NO LONGER JUSTIFIED.

(E) QTE A STATEMENT ON THE CUSTOMS TARIFF CHANGES ARISING FROM THE GOVERNMENT'S DECISION WILL BE ISSUED WHEN ARRANGEMENTS TO IMPLEMENT THE CHANGE HAVE BEEN FINALIZED
END QTE.

2. COMMENT: THIS DECISION SHOULD NOT, IN OUR VIEW, BE INTERPRETED AS A PARTICULARLY SIGNIFICANT ONE WITH RESPECT TO THE FUTURE THRUST OF THE FRASER GOVERNMENT'S POLICY ON IMPORT PROTECTION. IN THE FACE OF FIGURES APPARENTLY SHOWING A MARKED DECLINE IN IMPORTS AND IAC ANALYSIS INDICATING LOW DEMAND, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN AN EGREGIOUS OMISSION BY THE GOA NOT TO TAKE THIS ACTION AT THE END OF THE TWELVE MONTH PERIOD FOR WHICH THE QUOTA WAS FIRST IMPOSED.
HARGROVE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: STEELS, IMPORT CONTROLS, PRESS RELEASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976CANBER01843
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760088-0650
From: CANBERRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760381/aaaactpb.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 CANBERRA 1917
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 JUN 2004 by fisherem>; APPROVED <14 DEC 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AUSTRALIAN TARIFF QUOTA ON PRECISION GROUND STEEL BALL BEARINGS LIFTED
TAGS: ETRD, AS, GATT
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006